

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-17 remain pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1, 13 and 15 are amended; and claims 18 and 19 are canceled.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication in paragraph 5 of the Office Action that claim 3 contains allowable subject matter; and the Examiner's indication in paragraph 6 of the Office Action that claims 18 and 19 contain allowable subject matter. By the foregoing amendment, claim 13 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 18, and claim 15 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 19. Claim 1 is amended to similarly recite "the plurality of microphones and the display unit are both mounted on a frame configured for attachment to a human head."

In numbered paragraph 2 of the Office Action, independent claims 1, 13 and 15, along with dependent claim 7, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by European Patent Document 1045586 (Taylor et al.). In numbered paragraph 3 of the Office Action, dependent claims 2, 4-6, 10, 11, 14, 16 and 17 are rejected as being unpatentable over the Taylor publication in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,392 (Butnaru et al.). In numbered paragraph 4 of the Office Action, dependent claims 8, 9, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Taylor publication in view of the Butnaru et al. patent and further in view of U.S. Patent Document US2002/0101537 (Basson et al.). The foregoing rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 13 and 15 have been amended to include subject matter indicated by the Examiner to be allowable. Independent claim 1 has been amended

to include features similar to those of claims 13 and 15. The Taylor publication, considered alone or in combination with the other references, fails to teach or suggest Applicant's claim 1 combination which includes, among other features, displaying visual representations of the filtered sound in real time based on the display control signals, wherein the plurality of microphones and the display unit are both mounted on a frame configured for attachment to a human head. The Butnaru et al. patent and the Basson et al. publication, considered individually or in combination with the Taylor publication, fail to overcome the deficiencies of the Taylor publication.

The Examiner has indicated allowable subject matter, which has been incorporated in the independent claims, 1, 13 and 15. At least for the foregoing reasons, claims 1-17 are in condition for allowance.

All rejections and objections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 26, 2005

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